MINUTES OF THE

NCAA DIVISION III ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE NO. 9

Those participating were James Bultman, Division III Presidents Council chair; Chris Martin, Division III Management Council chair; Jeff Martinez, Division III Management Council vice chair; Jim Schmotter, Division III Presidents Council vice chair; Chris Thomforde, Division III Management Council; Dan Dutcher, NCAA; Amy Huchthausen, NCAA; Leah Kareti, NCAA, recording secretary; Kiera Miller, NCAA; Jeff Myers, NCAA and Kristin Nesbitt, NCAA.

[NOTE: These minutes contain only actions taken (formal votes or stated "sense of the meeting") in accordance with NCAA policy regarding minutes of all Association entities. While certain items on the committee's agenda were acted on at various times throughout the meeting, all final actions within a given topic are combined in these minutes for convenience of reference.]

The teleconference occurred August 29, 2011, as was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

Acting for the Division III Presidents Council and Management Council, the Administrative Committee took the following actions:

1. 2012 NCAA Convention Legislation. Reviewed and approved as written or as amended the following legislative drafts of 2012 NCAA Convention legislation sponsored by the NCAA Division III Presidents and Management Councils, consistent with the September 1 deadline.

    a. Amateurism and Executive Regulations – Financial Donations and Advertising and Sponsorship of NCAA Championships – Professional Sports Organizations. To specify that a professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an intercollegiate competition event, provided the organization is not publically identified as such; and that a professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an activity or promotion that is ancillary to the competition event and may be publically identified as such; further, to eliminate the prohibition on sponsorship of NCAA championship activities or promotions by professional sports organizations or teams.

    b. NCAA Membership – Member Conference – Conditions, Obligations Privileges and Automatic Qualification – Core Institution. To align the membership requirements for a conference with the automatic qualification requirements for a conference, by doing the following: (1) confirming that member conferences must be comprised of at least seven core Division III institutions; (2) specifying that institutions may be a core member in only one multi-sport conference; and (3) specifying that a member conference is entitled to a two-year grace period if it fails to satisfy the membership requirements. Finally, any institution considered a core institution in more than one multi-sport conference prior to September 1, 2011, may continue as a core institution in those conferences for purposes of satisfying the automatic qualification and conference membership requirements.

c. Division Membership – Division III Philosophy Statement – Affirmation and Clarification of Undergraduate Experience, Broad-Based Athletics Programs, Participation in Non-Athletic Pursuits and Autonomy in Eligibility Standards. To specify in the philosophy statement that Division III institutions: emphasize intercollegiate athletics as primarily focused on a four-year, undergraduate experience; encourage participation by maximizing the number and variety of sport offerings for their students through broad-based athletics program; assure that student-athletes are supported in their efforts to meaningfully participate in non-athletic pursuits to enhance their overall educational experience; and exercise institutional and/or conference autonomy in the establishment of initial and continuing eligibility standards for student-athletes.

d. Personnel – Conduct of Athletics Personnel – Certified Strength and Conditioning Coaches – Required Sports-Safety Training. To require certified strength and conditioning coaches to maintain current certification in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use if they conduct voluntary strength and conditioning activities outside the playing season.

e. Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing-Season Regulations – Required Sickle-Cell Testing. To require a sickle cell solubility test as part of the mandatory medical examination, unless documented results of a prior test are provided to the institution or the student-athlete declines the test and signs a written release; applicable to all student-athletes beginning their initial season of eligibility and continuing student-athletes.

f. Recruiting – Electronic Transmissions – Allowing Text Messaging. To allow text messaging to be used in the recruiting process.

2. Sage Colleges Appeal of a Denied Sports Sponsorship Waiver. The Administrative Committee granted the institution's appeal request, noting that, based on the correspondence sent to the institution at the time the initial sports sponsorship waiver was granted, it was reasonable for the institution to assume that the original sports sponsorship waiver covered the 2010-11 year. Specifically, the committee's interpretation of the waiver letter was such that the terms of the waiver covered 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. Regarding the application of the original waiver to women's sports, the committee agreed that the original correspondence was ambiguous as to which sports it covered, and believed the institution acted in good faith by interpreting the letter to cover both men's and women's sports in the 2010-11 year.

With this decision, the committee indicated that the appeal decision letter should include a statement of admonishment about scheduling practices. It is considered bad policy to schedule only the minimum number of required contests in any sport needed for sports sponsorship purposes. The committee also recommended that the Division III Membership Committee require an annual reporting process for institutions covered by multi-year sports sponsorship waivers where resulting correspondence is clear about expectations for the upcoming year.

3. Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee Vacancy. The Administrative Committee approved the following committee appointments for one immediate and two January 2012 vacancies.

- Immediate vacancy: Donna Ledwin, commissioner, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.
- January 2012 vacancies: Jason Fein, director of athletics, Drew University; and Lisa Wisniowicz, compliance coordinator, Aurora University.

4. The teleconference adjourned at 3 p.m.

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